



The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in regular session on Monday, May 13, 2024, at 5:30 PM, in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 605 Spring St., Columbus, Texas, with the following present:

Mayor – Lori An Gobert  
Mayor Pro Tem – Chuck Rankin  
Councilman – Keith Cummings  
Councilman – Ronny Daley  
Councilwoman – Paige Sciba  
Councilman – Michael Ridlen  
City Manager – Donald Warschak  
City Secretary – Bana Schneider  
Assistant City Secretary – Dinah Jacobs (Absent)

Other City Staff present included:

Police Chief – Skip Edman  
Code Enforcement – Richard LaCourse

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor, Lori An Gobert, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation**

Gobert led the pledge and invocation.

**3. Oath of Office for Newly Elected Officials.**

Gobert administered the oaths of office to the re-elected officers, Council Place 3, Paige Sciba; Council Place 4, Michael Ridlen; Council Place 5, Chuck Rankin.

**4. Consent Agenda:**

Motion to approve consent agenda as presented.

*Moved by:* Ronny Daley

*Seconded by:* Keith Cummings

**Aye** Michael Ridlen, Paige Sciba, Chuck Rankin, Keith Cummings, and Ronny Daley

**Carried 5-0**

- 4.1 Approval of Invoices [INVOICES 20240513.pdf](#)
- 4.2 Approval of Minutes of the April 22, 2024 Regular Meeting  
[MINUTES 20240422.pdf](#)
- 4.3 Approval of Financial Statements for November 2023  
[NOVEMBER 2023.pdf](#)
- 4.4 Approval of Financial Statements for December 2023  
[DECEMBER 2023.pdf](#)

**5. Approval of Invoices for Columbus Tire Center (Sciba Corporation).**  
[COLUMBUS TIRE 20240513.pdf](#)

Motion to approve invoices for Columbus Tire.

*Moved by:* Michael Ridlen

*Seconded by:* Chuck Rankin

<b>Aye</b>	Michael Ridlen, Chuck Rankin, Keith Cummings, and Ronny Daley
<b>Abstain</b>	Paige Sciba

**Carried 4-0**

**6. Citizens' Presentations and Comments<sup>1</sup>**

Cheryl Cook addressed Council regarding the advertisement for an assistant code enforcement officer for the City. She stated she did not think the position should be filled because the City has enough personnel and equipment.

**7. City Manager's Report Including Sales Tax, Fire Department Funding Workshop, TxDOT Projects Updates, Texas A&M Transportation Study, Midtown Park Improvements Update, and the CDBG-MIT Project.** [CM](#)

[REPORT 20240513.pdf](#)

City Manager, Donald Warschak, gave his report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. Code Enforcement officer, Richard LaCourse, contributed to the discussion related to the funding for county fire departments.

**8. Consideration and Action to Approve Resolution 277-24, a Resolution for Participation in the TIPS Purchasing Cooperative Offered by Region VIII Education Service Center.** [RESOLUTION 277-24 TIPS BOARD.pdf](#)

Warschak stated we could receive special pricing for the playground equipment for Midtown Park by joining this coop.

Motion to approve resolution 277-24 for participation in the TIPS Purchasing Cooperative.

*Moved by:* Michael Ridlen  
*Seconded by:* Keith Cummings

**Aye** Michael Ridlen, Paige Sciba, Chuck Rankin, Keith Cummings, and Ronny Daley

**Carried 5-0**

**9. Consideration and Action to Approve the Interlocal Agreement Between Region 8 Education Service Center and the City of Columbus. [TEXAS INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT.pdf](#)**

Motion to approve the interlocal agreement with Region Eight Education Service Center.

*Moved by:* Michael Ridlen  
*Seconded by:* Keith Cummings

**Aye** Michael Ridlen, Paige Sciba, Chuck Rankin, Keith Cummings, and Ronny Daley

**Carried 5-0**

**10. Consideration and Action to Approve Submission of a Union Pacific Railroad Land Lease Application. [UPRR LAND LEASE APPLICATION.pdf](#)**

Warschak discussed improvements that would be needed for parking lot usage.

Motion to approve submission of the Union Pacific Railroad land lease application.

*Moved by:* Michael Ridlen  
*Seconded by:* Chuck Rankin

**Aye** Michael Ridlen, Paige Sciba, Chuck Rankin, Keith Cummings, and Ronny Daley

**Carried 5-0**

**11. Consideration and Action to Approve the Closure of Fannin Street (Highway 71 BUS) Between Walnut (Highway 90) and Preston Street on Thursday, May 16, 2024 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and to Approve the Use of City Streets for the Required Detour of Traffic as Shown on Attachment as Requested by Dallas Lite & Barricade (DBLINC). [STREET CLOSURE DETOUR PLAN.pdf](#)**

Warschak stated the closure request had been withdrawn.

No action was required.

**12. Consideration and Action to Approve Resolution 278-24, a Resolution Declaring City Owned Personal Property as Surplus, and Authorizing the Sale of Surplus Property. [RESOLUTION 278-24 SURPLUS PROPERTY.pdf](#) **

Motion to approve Resolution 278-24.

*Moved by:* Paige Sciba

*Seconded by:* Keith Cummings

**Aye** Michael Ridlen, Paige Sciba, Chuck Rankin, Keith Cummings, and Ronny Daley

**Carried 5-0**

**13. Consideration and Action, if Necessary, Regarding the April 2024 Golf Report. [CMGA APRIL 2024.pdf](#) **

CMGA Board Members were present. President, Shane Barten made introductions, and updated Council on the course activity.

No action was required.

**14. Consideration and Action to Approve the Reading of the National Garden Week Proclamation at the May 28, 2024 Regular Meeting as requested by the Columbus Garden Club.**

Motion to approve Garden Club proclamation.

*Moved by:* Paige Sciba

*Seconded by:* Michael Ridlen

**Aye** Michael Ridlen, Paige Sciba, Chuck Rankin, Keith Cummings, and Ronny Daley

**Carried 5-0**

**15. Items from Councilmembers<sup>2</sup>**

Cummings - None

Daley - None

Sciba - Reported the crosswalk at the Little League fields was non-functioning

Ridlen - Thanked the City for improving the buildings at the Little League fields

Rankin - None

Gobert - Reminded everyone of the Firefighter Memorial Service after the meeting

**16. Announcements**

City Secretary, Bana Schneider, asked Council to review the 2023 Financial Report she distributed. The auditors will make a presentation at a future meeting.

Warschak stated he had spoken with AEP regarding the power poles in town.

**17. Adjournment**

With no further business, Gobert adjourned the meeting at 6:11 p.m.



**Lori An Gobert, Mayor**

**Attest:**



**Bana Schneider, City Secretary**

<sup>1</sup>During this agenda item, citizens may comment for the record on items, which are not on the agenda. However, the Council may not participate in discussion or deliberation on any item that is not on the agenda. Citizens may request that a topic be added to a future agenda.

<sup>2</sup>Limited to statements. Issues raised by councilmembers under this item cannot be deliberated by Council. The Open Meetings Act does not allow Council to deliberate items that don't appear on the agenda.